

Serial No. 10/024,915
60130-1295; 01MRA0074

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the detailed remarks and analysis. It should be noted that in the previous response include claims 21-35. The current office action does not include any application of art or other disposition of these claims.

Claims 8-14, 17 and 18 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has done. Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 8 and any intervening claims. Claims 9, 17, 18 have all been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of claim 1. Further, claims 20, 21 and 22 have been amended to include the limitations previously presented in claims 6 and 8.

Additionally, Applicant has included new independent claims 36-44. Claim 36 includes limitation previously presented in claims 20, 6 and 9. Claim 37 includes limitations previously presented in claims 20, 15, 16 and 17. Claim 38 includes those limitations previously presented in claims 20 and 18. Claim 39 includes limitations previously presented in claims 21, 6 and 9. Claim 40 includes those limitations previously presented in claims 21, 15, 16 and 17. Claim 41 includes those limitations previously presented in claims 21 and 8. Claim 42 includes those limitations presented in claims 22, 6 and 9. Claim 42 includes the limitations previously presented in claims 22, 6 and 9. Claim 43 includes the limitations from claims 22, 15, 16, and 17. Claim 44 includes the limitations previously presented in claims 22 and 18.

Each of the independent claims includes limitations indicated as being allowable in the previous office action and therefore all in allowable form. Specifically, claims 1, 20, 21, and 22 include the limitation that a part of the release mechanism is retained in a rest position by a control pawl to provide the lock condition.

Claims 9, 36, 39, and 42 include the limitation that part of the release mechanism is a lock/unlock lever which is retained in a first position when the control element is in its locked condition and is allowed to be moved to a second position when the control element is in its unlocked condition.

Serial No. 10/024,915
60130-1295; 01MRA0074

Claims 17, 37, 40 and 43 requires that the release mechanism return to a rest position from the release position upon release of a manually actuable element and the release mechanism is biased to the rest position by a resilient means in which the resilient means includes a first resilient means biasing the release mechanism to the unlocked position from the released position and a second resilient means biasing the release mechanism to the rest position from the unlock position.

Claims 18, 38, 41 and 44 require that a latch is further movable between a latched and a released position by a powered release actuator.

Further, Applicant has added dependent claims 45-51. Claims 45, 47, 49, and 51, are dependent on different independent claims and include the limitation that a part of the release mechanism is retained by magnetic attraction. Claims 46, 48, 50, 46,49 and 52 include the limitation that the locked condition can additionally be provided by a part of the release mechanism being retained in the rest position by a control pawl to provide for the locked condition.

Accordingly, Applicant requests favorable consideration of this response. Please contact Applicant's agent at the below listed number if it is felt that a teleconference would aid in forwarding this application to grant. The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., \$3500.00 for the two month extension fee (\$450.00), 13 additional claims in excess of twenty (\$650.00), and 12 additional independent claims in excess of three (\$2400.00). If any additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Serial No. 10/024,915
60130-1295; 01MRA0074

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



John M. Siragusa, Reg. No. 46,174
CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.
400 West Maple Road, Suite 350
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: December 6, 2005